Mount St. Mary's COLLEGE MAGAZINE

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Commencement 1994

Priar ta Pamp and Circumstance: Gathering in the Cae Library an Cammencement Day are, L ta R, Actress Mercedes McCambridge, Sister Karen Kennelly, and Sister Cecilia Louise Maare.

Regent Arthur E. Schramm, Jr., who served as the master af ceremanies far the big event, cangratulates Jannet Tanari at the canclusian af her apening remarks. Schramm's daughter, Kimberle, is alsa a '94 grad — but was interning in Paris aver the summer, and unable ta be present far the ceremanies.

Throughout the morning on May 7, all eyes focused on the dark, threatening clouds overhead. Would it rain, sending the 461 graduates, along with their families and friends, scrambling into Carondelet Center Chapel for the College's 65th annual Commencement? By 2:00 p.m., the gloomy billows had blown far to the east, bathing the sky in sunlight as the long-anticipated festivities began.

Associate in arts graduate Jannet Tanori welcomed the crowd on behalf of the Class of '94, and revealed the impact of her first two years of college at the Doheny campus. "It was the faculty, the staff, and my peers who provided the atmosphere that nourished my growth," she said. "As we move into our futures, we take with us powerful skills for success."

Baccalaureate grad Erica Jager offered the class tribute. "Each one of us is a treasure chest of past histories," she told classmates. "Mount St. Mary's College has offered us the opportunity to share our treasures with one another, and therefore increase our personal wealth."

Actress Mercedes McCambridge, keynote speaker, was awarded the degree of Doctor of Fine Arts, honoris causa. McCambridge gratefully received her tenth honorary degree in recognition of her extraordinary achievements as an actress, and her many years of dedicated teaching as an artist-in-residence at colleges and universities across the country. Comparing life to a stage production, and quoting Emerson, Thoreau, Shakespeare, Mark Twain, and other writers, McCambridge told the graduates that opportunities were awaiting them as they approached "Act II" of their lives. She offered some advice:

"I beg you to stay out of your own way," she said. "Thoreau said it: 'Man will be in his own way, as long as he insists on being in his own way.' It is the greatest waste of time you will ever know — it is my life's most important lesson! I'm still learning it. It is not an exercise that comes easily. It demands constant vigilance because standing in my own way is a very seductive maneuver; it is such a tempting camouflage . . ."

She added "I believe, with all the ardor in my heart, that if you stay out of your own way . . . if you will hope and heal yourselves through dark times, relying on humor with its tender loving care . . . then surely the superior reasoning power as it is expressed in the incomprehensible universe will not be disappointed in you, nor will you be disappointed in yourselves!"

Erica Jager salutes the Class af 1994.

For complete transcripts of the remarks of Mercedes McCambridge, or the student speakers, please call the public relations office at (310) 471-9537.

Russia in Transition

"Half of me wanted to run away, but the other half wanted to stay and help. St. Petersburg is so beautiful," sighs senior Jannet Beher. She spent the spring semester of her junior year at the Technical University of St. Petersburg, through the auspices of the American Institute for Foreign Students, and was able to experience first-hand some of the traumas of transition facing the Russian people.

"They often didn't seem to know how to respond to a smile," says Beher. "There is terrible feeling of collective depression in Russia, and to some extent they blame America for what they're going through — since they believe we influenced Gorbachev. It feels now as though they have truly lost hope," she concedes.

The trip was far from somber, however. Beher acquired an international network of friends who shared her studies of Russian language, literature, and contemporary life. Her fellow students hailed from Turkey, Morocco, Sweden, France, and Lebanon.

A business administration major with emphasis in international business, Beher hopes one day to work for a company involved in a Russian-U.S. joint enterprise. She is not indifferent to the prospects for opening new markets in Russia. "M&M's arrived about a month before we left, and we were so happy . . . until then, we had survived on Snickers and Coke!"

Jonnet Beher (second from left) with student and soldier friends in the snowy streets of St. Petersburg.

The Art of Giving

When the 1993 Altadena fire destroyed the home and personal belongings of local artist La Monte Westmoreland and his wife, Martina, their friends immediately rallied on their behalf. Olga Seem, fellow artist and former director of the College's José Drudis-Biada Gallery, devised a plan that would help Westmoreland, an educator and founding director of Santa Monica High School's Roberts Art Gallery, rebuild his art collection accumulated over 25 years.

Seem contacted artists whose work appeared in the collection, finding 37 who responded with offers to replace the lost pieces. A one-week exhibition, made possible by the support of the College with assistance from a Knight/Ford grant, displayed the new works. Included were several drawings by Seem, a photo etching by art department chair Norman Schwab, and a terra cotta sculpture by Jody Baral, the Drudis-Biada gallery curator.

"Westmoreland was a frequent guest lecturer at MSMC. He was very helpful to the College when we had an opportunity to establish a slide library and history program to teach the relationship of art from different cultures," says Schwab. "The donated works represent the enthusiasm of contemporary artists he has helped to support over the years."

WIN: It's Working and Networking!

The Women's Internship Network (WIN), coordinated through the Leadership Program and co-sponsored by the Junior League of Los Angeles, recently concluded its third successful year. WIN students participate in a one-week program each spring in which they are adopted by mentors — professional women working in various areas of public policy. Beginning with an application and interview process and culminating in a networking breakfast for all participants, WIN fosters community involvement, provides valuable career-related experience, and creates a dynamic link among students from a variety of academic majors.

The 27 WIN students this year enjoyed placements in the U.S. Department of Justice, the Los Angeles City Fire Commission, LEARN, the offices of County Supervisors Burke and Molina, KCET, the National Health Foundation, and former President Reagan's office, among others. A WIN mentor for three years, Bonnie Winter of International Association Services, Inc., shows continued enthusiasm. "The attitudes of the students are outstanding -- they are bright and capable young women!"

The College is especially grateful for the support of the Junior League of Los Angeles, which makes an ongoing investment in the MSMC WINning spirit.

— Submitted by ***Sara Hebert '91***, who has managed the WIN program for the last two years.

Junior Monica DuQue (L) with her WIN mentor, attorney Jeon Ann Enns, and Academic Vice President Jackie Doud.

Board of Trustees Welcomes New Chair

MSMC's 22-member Board of Trustees, the key governing body of the College, begins the academic year with a new chair.

Sister Mary Kevin Ford, CSJ, a trustee since 1989, replaces Sister Cecilia Louise Moore as chair. Ford has headed the Board's finance committee since 1993. She is assistant to the president/CEO, Carondelet Health Corporation of Arizona. A native of New York, she received her B.S. from the College of St. Rose, Albany, New York, and her M.S. from Catholic University, Washington D.C. During her career, Ford has served as General Superior, Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, St. Louis, Mo; director of the School of Nursing, St. Mary's Hospital, Amsterdam, New York; and assistant professor and assistant director, Division of Nursing, College of St. Rose. She has been a member of advisory boards and/or boards of directors for hospitals, colleges, and universities throughout the country.

Sister Kathleen Ann Du Ross, CSJ, Cardiovascular Clinical Nurse Specialist and Clinical Nurse Supervisor at Daniel Freeman Hospital, was reappointed to a second four-year term on the MSMC board. Du Ross has developed an in-patient hospital cardiac rehabilitation program, serves as a lecturer for the California State Continuing Education Program, and is an active member of several health care boards.

Sister Joyce Marie Gaspardo, CSJ, Provincial Superior for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Los Angeles, since 1992, received her B.A. in liberal arts studies from MSMC in 1966. From 1976-80, she was the director of the College's Campus Ministry. She has spent more than 10 years as an administrator and educator at parochial schools in Arizona and California.

Norma L. Gonzales, president of the board of directors of the Venice Family Clinic, has been a member of MSMC Regents Council since 1990. She worked for the Southern California Gas Company for 37 years, holding several positions before serving for 10 years as district manager of the Westside Bay Area. She has been a member of the boards of numerous civic and community service organizations in West Los Angeles and Santa Monica, and was the first woman elected president of the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

The Most Reverend Gabino Zavala was ordained to the Sacred Order of Bishop in March 1994, heading the San Gabriel pastoral region. Following his assignment as associate pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in East Los Angeles, he attended Catholic University of America, Washington D.C., where he studied in the canon law program. He became the ninth rector of St. John's Seminary in 1992, after serving as dean of students in 1986, and vice-rector in 1987.

A student flips through the cord cotolog in the Coe Library moin reoding room, ot the end of the spring semester. The cords will likely become collector's items when MSMC's on-line cotolog is in ploce.

New Lease on Life for Libraries

A key provision of the College's Strategic Plan for 1991-96 calls for improving the libraries and learning support systems on both campuses. Anyone who has visited Chalon over the summer knows that the work of renovating the Coe Library has begun with gusto. While changes to accommodate an on-line catalog and other necessary modifications to the facility have required the library to be essentially rebuilt from the inside out, the aesthetics of the main reading room will be preserved, along with a reverence for books as well as bytes.

At Doheny, progress is a bit slower — delayed by the formidable permit process required by the City of Los Angeles. Groundbreaking for the new library building at Doheny is expected before the end of the year.

Moking use of the Medio Center in the Temporory Library (oko Cholon Compus Center) ore Zemio Atkins ond Monico Loyo.

Approaches to AIDS Education

How does policy affect what adolescents know about AIDS, and how do they cope with that knowledge and fear? Jennifer Bright '92 was intrigued by the research undertaken by one of her professors at Claremont Graduate School, and volunteered to help. She was invited to join the research team on a two-week trip to Zimbabwe this summer.

"We are comparing three countries where there is a very high incidence of HIV infection," Bright explains. "The idea is to examine how policy, and counter policy, affect what adolescents learn about the virus." An example of a counter policy might be education programs that don't permit teachers to talk frankly to students about high-risk behavior. "Counter policies perpetuate ignorance and inaction, putting up barriers to implementation of effective government policy." The other two countries examined in the study are Sweden and the United States. While each has huge numbers of AIDS-infected citizens, the three countries are, of course, at very different stages in their social and economic development.

Bright was impressed with the beauty of Zimbabwe and the spirit and generosity of the African people. Interviews with researchers, medical doctors, policy makers, and educators translated the staggering statistics (more than eight million Africans are infected with the virus) into a very personal reality. The next phase of research will take her to Sweden, but Bright wants to return to Africa soon.

"There's always the hope that your research will have a direct impact on public policy," she says. "I'd like to feel that this work will influence AIDS education not only in our country, but in the policies of other countries as well."

An affable baby crocadile with Jennifer Bright

Learning to Lead

As soon as classes were over in May, three Mount St. Mary's College students traveled to Lake Arrowhead to attend the California Campus Compact's first Leadership Academy for student leaders of community service programs. The Academy included 16 students from nine colleges. Training seminars focused on team-building, ethical leadership, conflict resolution, leadership styles, fund raising, media relations, diversity awareness, and other issues leaders encounter on a daily basis.

"As delegates, we had one common goal: to learn how to serve our communities better," says sophomore June Sun, who has been a volunteer with the Korean Health Center since 1988. Sun, along with MSMC students Denise Carter and Sylvia Garcia, hopes to establish a community service program for the Chalon campus.

In June, Rutgers University was the destination for three sophomores selected to attend the New Leadership Program. The 10-day institute explored women's political involvement and leadership skills, and included trips to Washington D.C. and New York City, where students met women engaged in promoting productive change within the American political system.

One highlight was an address from Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg, who then spent extra time with the group answering a multitude of questions. The students also met with members of Congress, and community leaders. The delegation of 28, hailing from colleges and universities throughout the country, included Francesca De la Rosa, Nohelia Canales, and Anne Choe. The trio will complete a campus-based student leadership project this year, working on promoting political awareness and inspiring students to get involved in the political process. Next summer they will return to the institute at Rutgers to share the results of their efforts.

The New Leadership tria meets with a consultant ta Califarnia state Senatar Diane E. Watsan. L ta R: Nohelia Canales, Francesa De la Rasa, Hally Mitchell, Anne Chae.

"I always believed that politics was part of a man's world," said Canales. "I was impressed to see so many women doing powerful things."

Center for Cultural Fluency Opens

What characterizes a culturally fluent person? Knowledge of the concept of culture, including traditions, rituals, language, music, art . . . an appreciation of diversity . . . skills in recognizing various forms of stereotyping, prejudice and discrimination . . . . Cultural fluency is as rich and complex as humanity.

Grants from AT&T, Annenberg, and Philip Morris have launched the MSMC Center for Cultural Fluency, which is offering its first forum for Los Angeles K-8 teachers this fall. The brainchild of the MSMC education department, the Center is designed to provide resources and workshop opportunities for dialogue among teachers about issues of cultural diversity. Specifically, work at the Center will seek to enable K-12 teachers to become culturally fluent, and to develop cultural fluency in their students.

"The Center provides a wonderful focus for continued exploration of issues of diversity and pluralism, which is something that the Mount has been engaged in for a number of years," said Sister Karen in announcing the opening of the Center during the August faculty/staff convocation.

Future forums for teachers will emphasize collaborative teacher-student activities, development of curriculum units on diversity, forming teacher support teams, and sharing ideas at a cultural fluency conference.

Classics

'41 **Beatrice Ginevra Langston** was one of only 60 people nationwide to be honored by the American Society of Clinical Pathologists for her half century as a certified/registered medical technologist.

'43 **Winifred Gatz Sobieck** and her daughter spent a month in Missouri during the '93 floods.

'44 **Mary Holt Winkler** and her husband are enjoying the life of retirees. She retired from the Torrance Unified School District in 1982, after teaching kindergarten for 25 years.

'47 **Shirley Teichman Conniry** is the proud grandmother of eight.

'48 **Elizabeth Peukert** retired in 1989 from Ventura County Public Social Services after 39 years as a social worker with aged, blind, and disabled adults. She is now redecorating her home, gardening, visiting with friends, and traveling around the U.S.

'48 **Marie Aguiar Lemke** takes time from her busy schedule to enjoy her granddaughter.

'49 After having open-heart surgery in 1990, **Madeline Pettrow Byrd** is an officer in Chapter 79 of the National Mended Hearts Inc., and a visitor to heart patients in St. Joseph's and Western Medical Center Hospitals in Orange County. She has also completed classes for peer counseling and hospice work at St. Joseph's Hospital.

'51 **Barbara Terpening McGourty** and her husband spent 15 days tracing the footsteps of Christ and the Apostles in the Holy Land and Rome. The trip was sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and included an audience with Pope John Paul II.

'51 **Eloise Martinez Helwig** was promoted to President of the Los Angeles Orthopedic Hospital Foundation in September 1993.

'51 **Joyce Gisler Kelly** and her husband toured the Eastern Seaboard for their 43rd wedding anniversary, then spent some time in Laguna with their four children and nine grandchildren.

'53 **Mary Gertrude Creutz** and her sister, **Kathleen Creutz McCann**, addressed the need for warm, caring living environments for older persons by establishing the Maria Prima Residence for Seniors. Located across the street from St. Paul's Catholic Church and close to Westwood, the facility consists of five adjoining homes linked by paths and gardens. It combines the advantages of independent living with security, privacy, and the convenience of prepared meals and housekeeping. Both women are actively involved in Maria Prima, and have been recognized for their role in designing this truly innovative arrangement.

'54 **Joella Allen Broadway** is enjoying her new grandchildren and teaching Fitness For Seniors classes in her community of Oroville, CA.

'56 **Trudy Diggins Hayes** keeps busy with church music, her grandchildren, and traveling.

'56 **Nora Higgins Masterson** continues to teach math at Bell High School. She, her sister, **Kathleen Higgins Barela '54** and their husbands visited relatives in Ireland. They also attended a family reunion in Colorado.

'56 **Rosemary Lucente** is currently the principal of Figueroa Street School in Los Angeles.

'56 **Beverly Gueno Watkins** is very pleased with her position as Director of Special Education for the Los Angeles Unified School District. She is also a proud grandmother of three.

Golden Grads from the Class of 1944, L to R: Lorraine Barker Fricke, Beatrice Teresi Stathatas, Mildred Barry Creamer, Mary Frances McKenna, Patricia Lagsdon

'56 After many years as residents of Southern California, Jacqueline Picard Rall and her husband have retired to San Luis Obispo.

'58 Joan Henn's love of traveling took her and her sister on treks to the southern, western and northern parts of the United States.

'58 Last July, Maria Martinez was selected to attend a teacher seminar on modern art at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. She later visited New York and Madrid.

'59 Mary Hogan Dunsford is involved with the growing GED program for the college in Scotland County, NC. She is also a choir member, lector, and an Eucharistic Minister at her church.

'59 Kathleen Halloran Koziolek was named 1993 Freeborn County 4-H Club's Outstanding Adult Leader. She is also the field editor for *New Taste of Home* magazine, and a vice president of the Minnesota Home Economics Association.

'60 Marilyn Brassor Nagel made her first trip to Europe to visit her son in Spain.

'61 Phyllis Lieb Ambrose became a first-time grandmother in February 1993.

'61 Last year was an especially exciting one for Paul Salamunovich. He received an honorary doctor of fine arts degree from Loyola Marymount University, the Lifetime Achievement Award for "Commitment to Excellence in Choir Performance and Choral Music Education" at Carnegie Hall in New York, and the National Citation by Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity in San Francisco.

'63 Marian Menges Crowe is remarried and teaching at the University of Notre Dame, both in the freshman writing program and arts and letters core course.

'63 Collette Boland Quinn celebrated her son's marriage in New Orleans.

'64 Michelle Pierrong Klepper gets together with fellow alumnae whenever she visits from upstate New York. She enjoys traveling, skiing, tennis, attending concerts, and working out with her husband of nine years.

'66 Mary Woods Conway and her husband own a company which manufactures large structural concrete products.

'66 Pam Hallenbeck Litz is substitute teaching at Our Lady of Malibu Catholic School in Malibu, CA. She attended the Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway.

'67 Victoria Chaney-Brosman was appointed to the Los Angeles Superior Court by Governor Pete Wilson.

'67 A Mediterranean cruise, which included visits to Istanbul and Ephesus, was a fun and fascinating experience for Toni Bannan Gross and her husband.

'69 Janet Wolff Maulhardt enjoys her volunteer work, along with her part-time position as coordinator of long-range planning at Santa Clara parish in Oxnard, CA.

'69 Clare Collins Marquardt continues to teach AP and senior English at Temple City High School. She also serves on the Parish Council as head of the Youth Commission.

'69 Deborah Bottoms Lefevre was recently made supervisor of legal regulatory compliance for human resources programs and management of workforce diversity programs for Blue Shield of California.

'69 Eileen McAllen Tokar was promoted to community library manager of the Leland R. Weaver Library in South Gate, CA. She also serves as lector and Eucharistic Minister at St. Matthias parish.

'70 Alicia Gutierrez Wilson teaches Spanish at Buena Ventura High School in Ventura, CA. She also has received her BCC certificate and is working as a bilingual resource teacher.

'71 Ramona Vance Haywood is employed by Mira Costa College in Oceanside, CA, teaching part-time in an adult high school diploma program.

Phoning for Funds Is a Gift of Time to the College

Please join other alumnae volunteers at the Fall Phonathon, scheduled for Monday through Thursday evenings throughout October and early November.

For specific dates and times, and to receive further information about this year's drive, call the alumnae office at (310) 471-9522.

'76 Dorothy Caruso-Herman has been a pioneer in AIDS care and hospice nursing. She is the director of education at the San Gabriel office of Community Hospice Care, developed the home hospice program at the Visiting Nurse Association in Glendale, CA, and co-founded the Hospice Nurses Association and became its first president. She tours the country, speaking about hospice care issues; she helped write the National Institutes of Health policy for AIDS nursing. In addition, she has consulted with the Los Angeles Red Cross in establishing an HIV/AIDS education program for nurses, so that they might train family members or other caregivers caring for AIDS patients.

'76 Antonia Fernandez-Corcino writes that she has published a collection of poems, "Almas Unidas," written with her mother and sister. The poems explore religion, nature, love, and family relationships. Antonia has donated a copy of the book to the Coe Library at Chalon.

'77 Edna Dodson Dixon is currently self-employed as an independent medical case manager, involved with the Rehabilitation Nurses Coordination Network in San Diego. She

earned designations as a certified insurance rehabilitation specialist and as a certified case manager in 1993. She also owns a wholesale merchandising business and trains other prospective wholesalers.

'79 **Linda Hall Smith** went on a cruise up the Malay Peninsula. Her company has merged with an East Coast firm and is now called Nations Healthcare, which provides home healthcare services.

'80 **Irmalee Jordan** acts as a nurse surveyor with the Joint Commission Accreditation Hospital Organization, allowing her to travel and observe many fine hospitals and examples of good nursing.

'80 **Lisa Kimble Edmonston,** television newscaster for KERO-TV in Bakersfield, has received the Southwestern Regional Emmy Award in the category of special news reports.

'83 **Marguerite Prior Fisher** has temporarily quit working as a physical therapist in order to stay home with her children. She also enjoys hiking and skiing.

'83 **Lisa Peters Mathews** has returned to the music faculty at St. Paul of the Cross Catholic School in La Mirada, CA.

'83 **Karen McKnight-Compton** has co-founded the African-American Alumnae Network of Mount St. Mary's College (highlighted in our last issue of the magazine), which will operate as an extension of the Alumnae Association.

'83 **Christina Longo Porter** acts as a medical device litigator for Shook, Hardy and Bacon, P.C.

'83 **Karen Tancredy Sandri** is the proud mother of two children.

'83 **Jo Arroyo Schmidt** has joined the Peace Corps and will be serving in Paraguay for the next two years, teaching health care in rural areas.

'88 **Susan Danger** is a first grade teacher with the Riverside Unified School District. She also graduated from California State, San Bernardino with an M.S. and P.P.S.

'89 **Denise Stark Armstrong** has been promoted to physical therapy supervisor at Shriner's Hospital in San Francisco. She is also the mother of two wonderful children.

'91 **Christianne Nyberg Bishop,** a registered physical therapist, has been accepted to Creighton University School of Medicine in Omaha and will graduate in 1998.

'91 **Erika Arceneaux** has been named alumni support coordinator for Pepperdine's Seaver College Advancement and Alumni Relations Office.

'91 Having recently married and relocated to Florida, **Susan Fuller Pope** is returning to school at Florida Atlantic University to obtain her teaching credentials. She plans to work with children with learning disabilities.

'93 **Brother Rufino Zaragoza** has several compositions in *Flor y Canto*, a bilingual hymnal; he also gives workshops and retreats, and is program director for Mission San Luis Rey Retreat House near Oceanside, CA.

Two by Two

The members of the Alumnae Association extend best wishes to the following alumnae and their spouses:
'69 Jeanne Burnham Jones to Douglas J. Black
'91 Susan Fuller to Dan Pope

Enjoying the company at the President's Donor Dinner in May are, L to R: Koren McKnight Compton '87; Jane Bidlake Vallely '38; Jone's daughter, Carol Vallely Schmit; and Karen's mother, Peorl McKnight.

By-Lines

The members of the Alumnae Association extend congratulations to the following alumnae and their spouses on the birth of their children:
'74 Sean to Acinta Rayner Monteverde, 3rd child, 3rd son
'79 Kerie Nicole to Carol Dorgan Brown, 2nd child, 2nd daughter
'79 Shelby Jean to Cindy Hickman Harding, 2nd child, 1st daughter
'81 Evan Michael to Kathleen Ziglinski Shechet, 4th child, 4th son
'81 William Nicholas to Barbara Kucia Condrey, 2nd child, 2nd son
'84 Brennan Patrick to Ann Holverson Chance, 1st child
'88 Zachary Lucas to Lori Koutouratsas Canning, 1st child

Requiescant

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of:
'33 husband of Hazel Champion Masculine and father of Mary Masculine McCoy '67
'38 Dorothy Miller
'41 sister of Rosemary Johnson Stewart
'61 mother of Sharon Lisle Writer
'62 Sister Magdalen Coughlin
'62 mother of Marianne Kainz
'62 mother of Marie Treacy Mastandrea and Jeanne Treacy Trudeau '64 and grandmother of Noel Mastandrea '91
'63 Rita Murray Cronin
'64 mother of Virginia Speltz Mullin
'68 father of Sister James Marien Dyer
'68 brother of Sister Carol Purzycki
'72 father of Patricia Latasa Abler
'77 husband of Julie Ruesenberg Rintala
'79 father of Deborah Pavetti
'79 father of Mary Ann McAlea
'84 father of Mary Bortle Wilson and Diane Bortle '90

They will be remembered in the Masses, prayers and good works of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

Alumnae Association:
Coming of Age in the 21st Century

Patricia Dominguez Ellis '81, Alumnae Association President, recently met with Denise Goosby '88 to talk about the future of the Mount St. Mary's Alumnae Association.

Trish Dominguez Ellis

DG: As you look ahead to the needs of the College and its alumnae through the '90s and into the next century, what are the biggest challenges — and what goals have emerged?

PDE: Our major goal for the Alumnae Association this year is to complete the assessment process and long-range planning. This involves an evaluation of all alumnae activities, as well as a look at suggested activities in the assessment survey.

DG: Who received the survey?

PDE: The survey was sent to approximately 1,000 alumnae who graduated between 1970 and 1990. They were asked about the kinds of programs they'd like to see the Alumnae Association offer. We were careful to make the survey statistically sound — all the alums were selected randomly. They were also selected to be representative, by academic major and geographic location, of all Mount alumnae.

DG: Compiling the results must have been a daunting task. Why did you undertake the assessment project? What did you learn about Mount alumnae?

PDE: I think it's a healthy sign for any organization to stop and determine whether it is offering what the membership wants. Our alumnae ranks are growing — both in numbers and diversity — and traditional programs may no longer address the needs of the majority.

DG: What activities were suggested by survey respondents?

PDE: We were gratified by the clear support for events like the College's annual Founders Day celebration and class reunions. But we were able to track a sharp increase in interest in alumnae networking, continuing education programs, theatre and museum events, and opportunities to engage in community service projects.

DG: How will the Alumnae Association respond to the survey suggestions?

PDE: The results showed that our alumnae are very busy and budget conscious. The Board will be working on designing innovative responses to the specific suggestions — we will try to create meaningful new activities that we expect will motivate increasing involvement. We plan to follow-up by phone with each of the respondents, asking for comments on programs and events.

DG: What are some of the new programs?

PDE: This coming academic year, we will offer programs for alumnae in specific professions, inform alumnae of educational opportunities at the College, provide options for working within specific community service projects, and also expand our traditional events to offer broader activities. Then we'll invite groups of alumnae to brainstorm about the programs we think have been effective.

DG: What if you're an alumna with an idea — or ideas — but you didn't get randomly selected or invited to attend a brainstorming session?

PDE: We are very interested in getting comments and suggestions from all alumnae. Write me or the Alumnae Assessment Committee, c/o the Alumnae Office, 12001 Chalon Road, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Or better yet — just call the office at (310) 471-9522.

Lifetime Planning Issues

Mount St. Mary's COLLEGE

HERITAGE

On June 4, our Committee of Attorneys for Planned Giving — **Mary Creutz '53, Jane Johnson '64,** and **Angela Hawekotte Quinn '75** – gave a very fine presentation on wills, trusts and probate; charitable giving and tax savings; and the durable power of attorney for health care. A year ago this same program was held in the Pompeian Room on the Doheny campus; this year it was given in the Carousel Dining Room on the Chalon campus. Both events created lively discussions which carried on into the luncheon that followed.

Last April at the alumnae gathering in San Diego, **Mary Alice Zalesny Hawkins '53** asked if we could bring "Lifetime Planning Issues" to San Diego. We have set October 22 to "take our show on the road," so if you live in the area please save the date.

At the June seminar we asked for written comments. The participants reported that they were most appreciative of the "excellent presenters" and the "extensive information given."

Jack and Jill Crevier said the speakers did a great job of covering the material. "It reinforced some of our estate planning, and encouraged us to continue with more planning, which was extremely beneficial." Jill, class of '91, was one of our returning students.

"The presentation really got me thinking of all the planning I have to do for the future and for my children," said Cindy Heise, a guest of Litza Smith from the MSMC business office staff.

Jill and Jack Crevier, with Angela Hawekotte Quinn

Marie Treacy Mastandrea '62, the newest member of our Heritage Society, appreciated the explanations of the "need for 'Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care,' the need for sound legal advice in estate planning matters, and the interesting opportunities to give to the Mount in return for education received." Marie is naming MSMC in her retirement plan.

It is very rewarding to offer such a service for our alumnae and other friends. Let us know if you are interested in gathering a group of ten to fifteen for a seminar in your area. We now have our own brochure on planned giving — if you have not received it and would like a copy, please let us know.

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Photography
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(Additional photographs from MSMC Archives)

Typography
Judy Neunuebel Typesetter

Printing
Ventura Printing and Offset, Inc.

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Summer 1994 Volume 12, Number 4
Mount St. Mary's College Magazine (USPS 710-670) is published quarterly, Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer by Mount St. Mary's College, 12001 Chalon Road, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Second Class Postage paid at Los Angeles, CA and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Mount St. Mary's College Magazine, 12001 Chalon Road, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Mount St. Mary's College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, age or handicap in the administration of its admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, or in its educational programs.

Mount St. Mary's COLLEGE

Save the Date

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 15
Chaosing Life -- Letting Go
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Danahue Conference Center, Daheny campus

Sister Carmel Noone, RSC, explores unresolved hurts and angers, fears and guilts, and proposes a strategy for dealing with them in a positive way.**

Sunday, October 16
Alumnae Potluck Luncheon
San Francisco, CA

The Alumnae Association goes on the road to bring the Mount to locations throughout the country. Call the alumnae office at (310) 471-9522 for exact times and locations.

Friday, October 28
Chamber Music in Historic Sites
Díaz Tria
Delores Stevens, piano
Pampeian Room, Daheny Mansion

Call the Da Camera Society of Mount St. Mary's College, (310) 440-1351.

NOVEMBER

More alumnae luncheons on the following dates:

Saturday, November 5
Phaenix, Arizona
Sunday, November 6
Tucsan, Arizana
Sunday, November 20
Atlanta, Geargia

Sunday, November 6
Art Gallery Opening 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
José Drudis-Biada Gallery, Chalon

Sunday, November 13
"Many Snaws" Cancert
7:00 p.m.
Mary Chapel, Chalan*

Saturday, November 19
Renaissance Music – LA Chamber Singers
8:00 p.m.
Mary Chapel, Chalon*

DECEMBER

Saturday, December 3
Christmas Choral Cancert
8:00 p.m.
Carandelet Center Chapel

Frank Brownstead directs the Mount Singers, Mount Chorus, and an instrumental ensemble in music of the season.*

Saturday, December 3
A Day with Hildegard of Bingen
10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Danahue Canference Center, Doheny

Through lecture, dialogue, musical examples, and reflection, Dr. Nancy Fierro, CSJ, member of the music faculty, focuses on the life of Hildegard, a 12th century Benedictine abbess, and her views of the Feminine Divine.**

* Call the music department at (310) 471-9535.

**Sponsored by the Program in the Spiritual Life. Call Sister Thomas Bernard at (213) 746-0450 for information.